

Ericsson signed USD 300 million contract with Mannesmann

Ericsson has signed a USD 300 million (SEK 2,566 million) contract with operator Mannesmann Mobilfunk. The new GSM system equipment will optimize Mannesmann's infrastructure and to multiply the current capacity.

Already serving about 9.5 million subscribers with its D2 network at the end of 1999, Mannesmann is quite confident that the mobile telephony will continue to grow dynamically in the years to come.

"The continuous upgrade of the D2 network enables us to ensure that our customers will always benefit from high reliability and optimized quality. By choosing Ericsson, we rely on a proven and technologically leading system supplier," says Helmut Hoffmann, Technical Director at Mannesmann Mobilfunk.

In the years 2000 and 2001, Mannesmann will replace within the contract amongst others more than 100 Base Station Controllers (BSCs) and its Mobile Switching Centers (MSCs) - which represent a significant portion of the D2 network.

A major portion of Mannesmann's base stations installed in Germany are already connected via Ericsson's MINI-LINK wireless transport solutions. During 2000, Ericsson will install in Mannesmann's mobile network more than 1,200 new links based on the proven MINI-LINK technology.

"We consider this contract as a mark of Mannesmann's confidence in our technological know-how and a result of our close and successful co-operation," says Björn Eisner, Ericsson Vice President in Germany and responsible for Ericsson's activities with Mannesmann Mobilfunk.

Ericsson is the leading provider in the new telecoms world, with communications solutions that combine telecom and datacom technologies with freedom of mobility for the user. With more than 100,000 employees in 140 countries, Ericsson simplifies communications for its customers – network operators, service providers, enterprises and consumers – the world over.

Please visit Ericsson's Press Room at: <http://www.ericsson.se/pressroom>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

Johan Wiklund, Corporate Communications
Phone: +46 70 560 0134; E-mail: Johan.Wiklund@lme.ericsson.se

Annette Schulz-Ketzer, Communications Manager, Ericsson GmbH
Phone: +49 172 292 9302; E-mail: Annette.Schulz-Ketzer@edd.ericsson.se

Björn Eisner, Vice President, Ericsson GmbH
Phone: +49 172 296 9056; E-mail: Bjorn.Eisner@edd.ericsson.se